

EPC Hearing Notice

Publication of EPC hearing notices in the *Albuquerque Journal* will now occur on the **Wednesday - 22 days prior** to the public hearing on the **3rd Thursday of the month**. The hearing notice includes the time, place and date of the hearing along with a brief description of each application on the agenda. Previously, hearing notices were published 15 days before the public hearing. The reason for this change is to meet the advertising requirements for EPC study sessions which occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Rather than advertising the hearing and study session separately, a single notice will be prepared to advertise both. Contact the Planning Department at **924-3860** if you have questions.

Neighborhood Alert – Be aware that public comments at EPC Meetings have a time limitation due to the length of the EPC Hearings. The **48-Hour Rule of the EPC**: All written materials and other documents shall be submitted to the Planning Dept. no later than **9 a.m.** on the **Tuesday** of the Public Hearing week. For an Appeal Hearing – no communication with EPC is allowed within five days of the Public Hearing.

In order to make maximum use of the following information please note:

- Scan the entire list to see if your neighborhood association has a case this month.
- The name and phone number of the developer/agent is listed so that you can easily contact them should you have any questions.
- The assigned staff planner is identified with each agenda item should you need additional information (i.e., check on the actual placement of your case on the agenda). All staff may be reached at **924-3860**.
- On the day of the Hearing, call Planning at **924-3860** and the receptionist will give you the status of the Hearing.
- Staff reports are available at the Planning Office beginning at **3 p.m.** on the **Thursday** prior to the EPC Hearing.

On the 2nd Thursday of each month, the EPC has a Study Session to review the applications scheduled for the all-day public hearing which occurs on the **3rd Thursday of each month**. As with the Public Hearing, **the public is invited** to attend the Study Sessions; however, Study Sessions do not provide an open forum. Discussion is limited to staff and the EPC. Study Sessions regularly begin at 4 p.m. in the Plaza del Sol Hearing Room. Please call the Planning Department at **924-3860** to confirm the Study Session schedule as adjustments are made occasionally.

Please note that the **Pre-Hearing Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, September 22, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Planning Conference Room, Third Floor. The **EPC Public Hearing** will be held on **Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 8:30 a.m.** in the Hearing Room for the following cases:

Citywide

All neighborhoods; 04EPC-01356, Project #1001620; The Planning Department of the City of Albuquerque, requests an EPC recommendation of approval to the City Council for Text Amendment to the City Zoning Code, amending Section 14-14-8-4 ROA 1994, a portion of the Subdivision Ordinance and Section 14-16-4-4 ROA 1994, a portion of the Comprehensive Zoning Code to clarify that appeals from the Development Review Board (DRB) shall be heard by the Land Use Hearing Office, repealing Section 14-14-85 ROA 1994. Jon Messier at **924-3888**.

All neighborhoods; 04EPC-01357, Project #1001620; The Planning Department of the City of Albuquerque, requests an EPC recommendation of approval to the City Council for Text Amendment to the City Zoning Code, amending Sections 14-16-2-15(B)(9), 14-16-2-17(A)(12)(a) and 14-16-3-4(A)(12), portions of the Comprehensive Zoning Code, to prohibit the sale of certain alcoholic beverage packages for off-premise consumption within 500 feet of a designated Metropolitan Redevelopment Area.

Northwest

Rio Grande Blvd., Thomas Village, Alvarado Gardens (neighborhood association); 04EPC-01323, Project #1003003 (case #'s); Approximately two (2) areas located on the southeast side of Matthew Avenue NW and Rio Grande Boulevard NW (**location of request**); G-12 (**zone atlas page #**); La Montanita Co Op Food Market at **242-8800**, agent for La Montanita Co Op Food Market (**applicant or agency and phone #**); Requests a Zone Map Amendment from SU-1 to C-1 to allow the sale of New Mexico Only Wines for Off Premise Consumption (**action requested**); Carmen Marrone at **924-3814 (city staff planner)**.

No association; 04EPC-01340, Project #1003649; Approximately one (1) acre located on the south side of Montano Road NW between Second Street NW and Fourth Street NW; F-15; Garcia/Kraemer and Associates at **242-5566**, agent for Kenric and Kristy Garcia; A Zone Map Amendment from R-1 to C-1 Uses; Stephanie Shumsky at **924-3933**.

Paradise Heights, Saragossa, Cottonwood Heights, Horizon Hills; 04EPC-01348 and 04EPC-01349, Project #1001685; Approximately nine (9) acres located on the southwest corner of McMahon Boulevard NW and Golf Course Road NW; A-12; Great Basin Engineering at **801-521-8529**, agent for Smiths Food and Drug Centers; A Zone Map Amendment from SU-1 for IP Permissive Uses with exceptions to C-2 with SC designation and EPC Site Development Plan-Building Permit; Carmen Marrone at **924-3814**.

Parkway; 04EPC-01003 and 04EPC-01352, Project #1003523; Tract 30, 31, a portion of NMDOT Right-of-Way, Lands of Atrisco Grant, Unit 5 property located at the northeast corner of Interstate 40 and 98th Street NW and Endee Road NW; J-8; Rio Grande Engineering at **982-0999**, agent for Pickard Trust; Annexation and a Zone Map Amendment zoned A-1 Uses; Stephanie Shumsky at **924-3933**.

Northwest - con't.

No association; 04EPC-01353 and 04EPC-01354, Project #1000676; Approximately three (3) acres located on the west side of the Corrales Acequia between Corrales Road NW and Alameda Boulevard NW; A-14; Edward Fitzgerald/Architects at **268-9055**, agent for Mark and Jean Bernstein; Site Development Plan Amendment to Subdivision and Site Development Plan Amendment to Building Permit currently zoned SU-1/IP Uses; Elvira Lopez at **924-3910**.

Northeast

No association; 04EPC-01336, Project #1003646; Approximately one (1) acre located on the north side of Prospect Avenue NE between San Mateo Boulevard NE and Washington Street NE; H-17; Paula Dal Santo at **259-3955**, agent for Paula Dal Santo; Requests a EPC Site Development Plan Amendment to Building Permit zoned SU-1 C-3 Uses; Elvira Lopez at **924-3910**.

No association; 04EPC-01338, Project #1003647; Rescission of a portion of the La Cuesta Sector Development Plan to the area bounded by Juan Tabo Boulevard NE on the west, Copper Avenue NE on the north, Zena Lona Street NE on the east, and I-40 Freeway on the south; K-22; The Planning Department of the City of Albuquerque at **924-3860** agent for the City of Albuquerque; Sector Plan Rescission 03EPC-00465, rescinding the La Cuesta Sector Development Plan, Resolution 38-1982; Josh Skarsgard at **924-3935**.

Nob Hill; 04EPC-01341 and 04EPC-01342, Project #1003650; Approximately one (1) acre located on the west side of Wellesley Drive NE between Campus Boulevard NE and Purdue Place NE; K-16; Garcia/Kraemer and Associates at **242-5566**, agent for Marilyn Sanders, Et. Al.; A Zone Map Amendment from R-1 and R-2 to SU-2 OR and Corresponding Amendment to the Nob Hill Sector Plan (map only); Makita Hill at **924-3879**.

Jerry Cline Park, La Mesa Community Improvement; 04EPC-01347, Project #1003651; Approximately three (3) acres located on the north side of Lomas Boulevard NE between Lomas Boulevard NE and Marble Avenue NE; J-19; Phil D. Fitzgerald at **405-521-8999**, agent for Gary Skidmore; A Zone Map Amendment from C-2 and P to C-2 Uses; Stephanie Shumsky at **924-3933**.

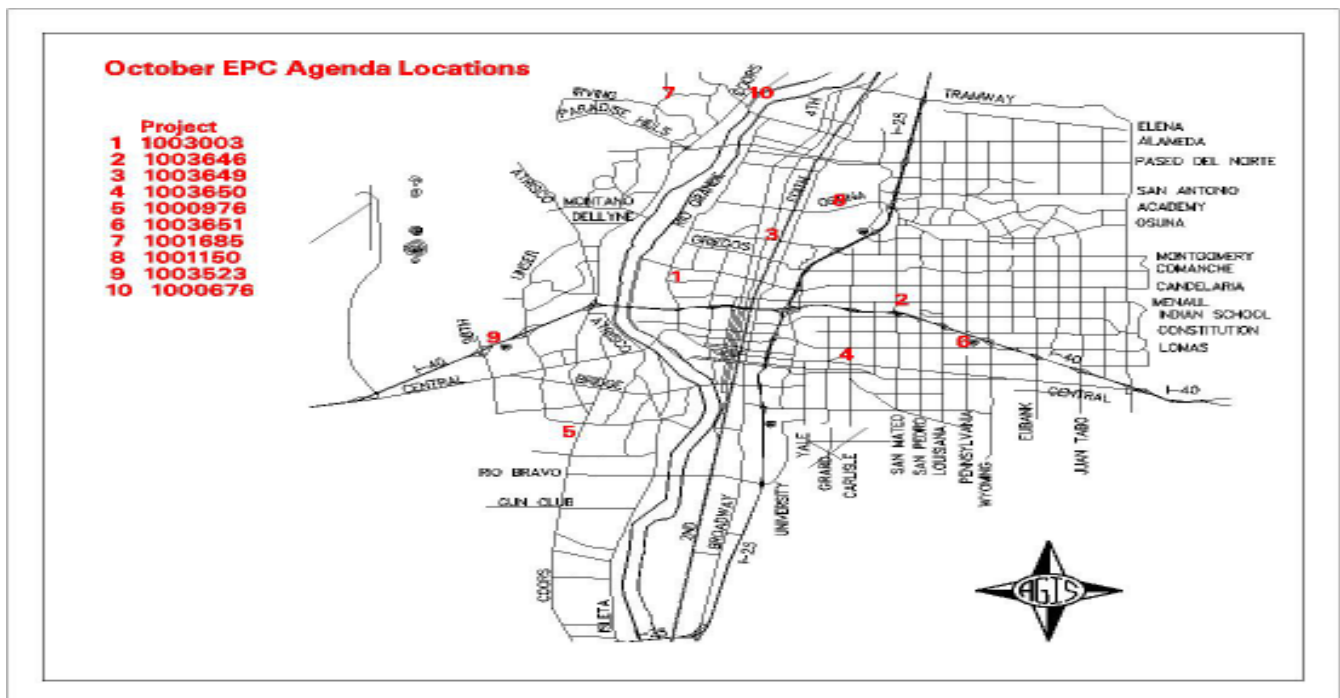
Northeast Valley, Alameda North Valley; 04EPC-01351, Project #1001150; Approximately six (6) acres located on the west side of Vista Del Norte Drive NE between Osuna Road NE and Vista Monte Drive NE; E-16; Isaason and Arfman at **720-7920**, agent for KB Home New Mexico, Inc.; A Zone Map Amendment from SU-1 for O-1 Uses to R-2 Uses; Elvira Lopez at **924-3910**.

Southwest

Desert Spring Flower; 04EPC-01346, Project #1000976; Approximately 40 acres located on the east side of the Amole Del Norte Diversion Facility between Coors Road SW and Ervien Lane SW and Huseman Place SW; M-10; Consensus Planning at **764-9801**, agent for GMR, LLC; A Zone Map Amendment from MH to R-LT Uses; Carmen Marrone at **924-3814**.

EPC Case Reference Map

(*Not to scale, for reference purposes only*)



1. What are General Obligation Bonds?

General Obligation bonds (G.O bonds) are revenue bonds backed by the full faith and credit of the City of Albuquerque. They may be redeemed by any regular source of city funding, but as a policy matter are generally redeemed by property taxes paid to the City.

2. Will my property tax rate go up to pay for the General Obligation Bonds?

NO! The city property tax rate will not increase. New bonds are issued as older bonds are retired, thus keeping the City's property tax rate essentially constant. In fact, due to low interest rates, the cost to the taxpayers for the issuance of bonds has been at historically low levels, enabling the City to pay down bond indebtedness in an average of 8 years rather than at the usual 10 years.

The city receives about 30% of the property taxes paid by the typical Albuquerque homeowner. The remaining 70% is allocated to the other governmental and educational entities which include the Bernalillo County Commission, TVI, AMAFACA, APS and UNM.

3. But my property taxes are going up. How come?

Governmental entities other than the City of Albuquerque have increased the tax rate over the years. As noted above, it is the policy of the City of Albuquerque keep the City property tax rate essentially at a constant level by paying off old bonds before issuing new ones.

4. Will my property taxes go down if I do not vote for the General Obligation Bonds?

There may be a very small decrease in property taxes if the street bonds are not approved by the voters - about \$37 per year for a home valued at \$150,000; and about \$25 per year for a home valued at \$100,000. (More details concerning the debt service levy and the impact on the average homeowners coming next month's edition).

5. Briefly, what does the bond funding provide for the citizens of Albuquerque?

General obligation bonds fund a host of capital improvements that directly affect the basic needs and quality of life of every Albuquerque resident. Public safety

General Obligation Bonds - 101

equipment, including police and fire facilities and vehicles; street and storm drainage improvements; public transportation improvements; parks, recreation and open space facilities; cultural institutions, including the zoo, aquarium, botanic garden and museums; senior centers and meal sites; and community centers; all these capital facilities and more are funded by general obligation bonds. Projects may cost millions of dollars and be funded over several bond cycles, or may cost a few thousand dollars and be funded within one bond program. For 2004 the proposed bond funding will be for street improvements projects only.

6. I hear the terms Bond Question, Bond Purpose and Bond Issue. What do they mean?

Generally, they all refer to the same thing. A bond question (purpose, issue) is a group of like projects gathered together in one elections questions called a "purpose."

In other words, projects related to street improvements are grouped together to form one purpose; projects related to parks and recreation are grouped together to form another purpose; and so on. In 2004 voters will be asked to consider only one purpose for street improvements.

7. When city voters approve one purpose, can the money be used for an other purpose?

NO! Occasionally, however, money projects identified within one purpose may be reallocated to another project within the same purpose, provided that the City Council holds a public hearing and then gives their formal approval to the reallocation. Stated another way, funding approved for the Streets purpose may not be reallocated to the Parks purpose, or funding approved for the Zoo and BioPark purpose may not be reallocated to the Storm Drainage purpose.

8. Why are you allowed to move money between or among projects within a purpose?

Projects that are listed within a particular purpose constitute a plan, approved by the City Council, to spend capital money, after it is authorized by the voters. Some projects within the plan are well known and understood, but in other cases planning may happen well in advance of ex-

ecution. Precise costs may be difficult to predict, or a particular project may not be feasible after closer examination. Without the ability to reallocate money between or among projects within a purpose, management and implementation of the capital program would be hamstrung. **But, remember, this money may only be reallocated after the City Council has a public hearing and gives its formal approval.**

9. How can I find out about the 2004 street projects?

Easy, just call the Capital Implementation Program of the City of Albuquerque at 768-3830 and they will mail you a complete list. Or you may access the City's web site at : cabq.gov/cip/planning. Look for directions to the 2004 Street Program.

10. And, by the way, how are these projects decided on?

Good question. It is actually pretty complicated and time consuming. The Capital Implementation Program administers a two-year-long process that begins with a resolution adopted by the City Council establishing criteria against which all projects are required to be evaluated. Each city department submits an application for projects and these applications go through a rigorous review process that includes staff review, rating and ranking; Senior City management review and recommendation to the Mayor; the Mayor's recommendation to the Environmental Planning Commission; and City Council's review and amendment.

There is public participation at various points in this process. First, when the City Council adopted the criteria resolution, they established the Council-Neighborhood Set-Aside program, which provided that \$1 million would be set-aside in each Council District for projects recommended to the Councilors by the public in their districts. The Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) is required to hold a public hearing and the City Council is also required to hold at least one public hearing.

In addition, for the 2004 Street bond program a committee, named the West Side Roads Ad Hoc Task Force, was formed to make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council. **MORE TO COME NEXT MONTH**

CITY SCOOP

News From City Departments



APD Crime Prevention

Submitted By Steve Sink

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

The time for monsters, super hero's and ghosts has arrived again. Halloween is a wonderful part of the changing seasons and we should do every thing possible to ensure the night remains a wonderful experience for our children. Most folks are aware of the need for cautionary steps on this haunted evening, particularly in regard to altered treats and safety. Unfortunately, there are dangers associated with this annual goblin festival. The following tips should be considered by all adults and children as a guide to protect our little cherubs during a night of trick-or-treating.

For Parents:

- The safest place is a sponsored event at a mall, school, church or neighborhood event.
- Accompany young children on the route.
- Send older children out with friends, a watch and flashlight.
- Agree to the route and an expected arrival time prior to departure.
- Always check your children's treats prior to consumption.

For Children and Parents:

- Wear light-colored clothing or costumes.
- Use make-up instead of a mask for better visibility.
- Make a map of the route for you and your parents.
- Carry a flashlight or light stick.
- Stay in your own neighborhood.
- Be respectful of other people and their property.

- Stop only at well-lighted houses.
- Have a parent check the treats before you eat them.
- Start early and end early.
- Use sidewalks or walk facing traffic.
- Always keep a safe distance between you and moving vehicles.
- Stop, look and listen at corners or before crossing the street and walk, don't run.
- Don't go between parked cars or crisscross back and forth across the street.
- Never go inside a stranger's house or apartment, no matter what anyone says.
- Don't carry sharp instruments and never carry a lighted candle or open flame.
- Any incident involving injury or violations of the law should be reported to the Albuquerque Police Department by calling **911 (Emergency) or 242-COPS (Non-Emergency)**. For more information on this or any crime prevention inquiries, call the APD Crime Prevention Unit at **924-3600**.

Cultural Services

September is the last month to see the Adriel Heisey exhibition, see it before it closes on September 26. Casa San Ysidro will come alive for Harvest Festival on September 25 and 26... this is always a fun event for the entire family. And don't miss Miniatures 2004 this popular sale & exhibition in now in its 12th year!

September Events at The Albuquerque Museum

From Above: Images of a Storied Land Aerial Photographs by Adriel Heisey 60 large-scale photographs by Adriel Heisey give an eagle's perspective of the desert Southwest. The aerial photographs of ancient and modern landscapes

are captured from a unique vantage point... an ultralight airplane. Experience the images and get an up close look at the plane. Docent-guided tours daily at 2 p.m. **On display only through September 26.**

Space Silence Spirit – Maynard Dixon's West

New exhibition featuring works by Western artist Maynard Dixon opens at the Museum on Sunday, September 26. See these works through January 2, 2005.

Other Activities

Saturday, September 25 and Sunday, September 26

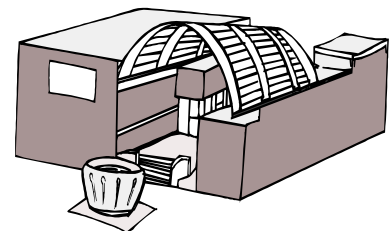
Harvest Festival at Casa San Ysidro

Harvest Festival keeps getting bigger and better at the Museum's historic house in Corrales. Casa San Ysidro will host artist demonstrations, music and dancing performances and children's activities for two days... it is fun for the entire family. Admission to Casa during the Harvest Festival is free.

Saturdays in September

Family Art Workshops - 1– 2:30 p.m.

Visitors of all ages are invited to participate in Family Art Workshops every Saturday. Join us on September 18 and 25 for creative fun. **Free** with museum admission.



CITY SCOOP continued

Metro Court**Judges Deal Proactively With
Mental Health Issues**

The Judges of the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court have long dealt with defendants who suffer with mental health problems. Individuals with these disorders frequently become involved with the Court due to offenses which may be caused by or related to their illness. While all of the Court's Judges see these cases on a regular basis, three are leading the effort to more effectively handle them.

In 2001 Judge Kevin Fitzwater started the Mental Health Court, a collaborative effort with the District Attorney's and Public Defender's offices and U.N.M. Mental Health Center. Candidates for the program may be identified by any of the team members. When referred to the program they are screened by specially trained probation officers and one of the court's clinicians assigned to the program.

If accepted into the program participants are supervised by its probation officers, community-based mental health and other services are arranged and they attend one-on-one case reviews with Judge Fitzwater on a regular basis. Over ninety percent of those graduating from the Mental Health Court have been successful - they have not been rearrested!

This past July, Judge Cristina Jaramillo began a special track in the D.W.I./Drug Court for offenders with "co-occurring disorders" - those who have a significant mental health problem together with their substance abuse disorder. The Co-Occurring Disorders track combines the structure and proven approaches of the D.W.I./Drug Court and the Mental Health Court.

Judge Jaramillo, who is one of the D.W.I./Drug Court Judges and served as the back-up judge for the Mental Health Court, is ideally qualified to head up this innovative program. Participants in the program have treatment, supervision and other services tailored to meet their individual needs by a team of professionals led by Judge Jaramillo. The team meets regularly to coordinate and plan services, as well as to review their progress in the program.

Like the traditional D.W.I./Drug Court program, the participants frequently meet one-on-one with Judge Jaramillo who discusses with them how they are doing, encourages their success and holds them accountable. Participants are required to attend intensive counseling, are strictly supervised, perform community service, attend MADD Victims Impact Panels and must submit to frequent random alcohol and other drug monitoring. Those with driver licenses must have an ignition interlock device installed on their vehicle. Participants who

violate program rules are subject to sanctions including incarceration.

In addition to the Court's special programs, the issue of whether a defendant is competent to stand trial is often raised. Judge Daniel Ramczyk, who was recently appointed to preside over competency hearings and serve as the back-up judge for the Mental Health Court, explains that at any time during a proceeding one of the attorneys in the case may raise the issue of competence to stand trial - primarily whether or not a defendant understands the proceedings and can assist in their defense. This often happens at the initial arraignment. Judge Ramczyk also volunteered and hears arraignments every Saturday.

When this occurs the Judge presiding over the case may order a Competency Evaluation. The Court then arranges for the evaluation by a qualified psychologist who has been contracted for by the State of New Mexico Department of Health. Following the evaluation a competency hearing is held at which time the defendant may be found competent or not competent to stand trial. If the defendant is found competent the case is sent back to the referring Judge. If not, the case is typically dismissed; although it could be referred to the District Court to determine if an individual is a danger to themselves or others.

Judge Fitzwater, Judge Jaramillo and Judge Ramczyk demonstrate their leadership and commitment to serving justice and our community by effectively working with these individuals. All of the Court's Judges utilize these special programs and services.

About The Court:

The State of New Mexico Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court is the busiest court in the state handling fifty percent of the State's cases. The court has sixteen judges, thirteen criminal and three civil divisions, who preside over misdemeanor, civil cases where the amount in question is \$10,000 or less, and felony first appearances.

The Court is a nationally recognized leader in the provision of innovative programs such as the Homeless Court, Mental Health Court, Domestic Violence Early Intervention and Repeat Offender Programs, D.W.I./Drug Court, Urban Native American and Co-Occurring Disorders tracks of the D.W.I./Drug Court.

Court Contact Information:

James J. Stoker, Sr. - Director,
Court Intervention Programs Division
505/841-8186 or
E-mail: <jstoker@metrocourt.state.nm.us>

Public Works

Wastewater Utilities Division

Sewer Odors

It is a fact, sewer odors are not pleasant, but each homeowner can help to reduce sewer odors in their neighborhoods and homes. Wastewater contains small concentrations of dissolved gases. One of these gases, hydrogen sulfide, is toxic in high concentrations, heavier than air and collects in low places. Hydrogen sulfide is responsible for the rotten-egg odor of wastewater. Extremely low concentration of hydrogen sulfide can be detected.

Residential plumbing systems have P-traps. P-traps prevent odors from backing up into the house because water in the trap acts as an airtight seal that blocks out odor.



Best Management Practices for Reducing Sewer Odor:

- Do not pour cooking grease or food into sink drains.
- Do not use the garbage disposal like a trash can i.e., grind large amounts of food and other organic material in the garbage disposal
- Make sure that tree roots are not entering your sewer line. This not only promotes sewer odor, but can cause a sewer backup as well.
- Occasionally, vent pipes may become clogged. Nesting birds or leaves from overhanging trees can prevent roof vents from functioning properly.
- Sewer pipes should never be allowed to rust or corrode this allows sewer vapors to leak through.

•Add **small** amounts of water to plumbing fixtures that have dried out. If fixtures have not been used in a while, the water in the water-seal traps may have evaporated.

•In some older homes, the washer outlets do not have P-traps. If your home is older, you may want to check that the washer outlet has a P-trap.

•Make sure that your roof vents extend at least 6" to 1ft above your air conditioner. When vents are lower, they draw the sewer odors back into your home.

If you smell a strong odor of hydrogen sulfide in your neighborhood it can be an indication of other problems in the collection system, call the Water Emergency Dispatch Office at **857-8250 to report sewer odors in your neighborhood.**

Unification Commission

2004 County-City Unification Charter Completed

The 2004 Unification Charter Commission held their 20th and final meeting September 2, 2004. The UCC approved the completed Charter on a 10-1 vote. After "enrolling and engrossing" the charter will be published and placed on the November 2, 2004 ballot. The final charter will be available online: www.abcucc.net and in libraries later in September.

The UCC conducted the work of drafting the charter in seven months. Administrative support was provided jointly by the County Manager's Office and City Council. Procedures for operations of the UCC were established by the joint City-County governing group, ABCGC. The broad timeline and mandate for this and the previous 2003 unification charter comes from the State Constitution.

A fiscal analysis of consolidating the two entities was conducted by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research and presented to the UCC August 20, 2004.

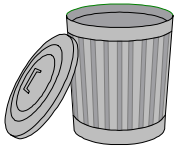
The study, also available online, provides information about taxes and services and indicates potential costs and benefits of combining the governments. Additional revenue from the State is anticipated, as are moderate savings. Costs include equalizing salaries of City and County employees.

Among the last sections of the charter to be decided were provisions for the transition to the new government. If voters approve the charter, an 11-member governing body and Mayor for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County would be nominated and elected in partisan special elections in July and August of 2005. The existing governing bodies acting together would establish the boundaries of the eleven new Commission districts by May 2005.

The charter Transition Article also includes creation of a seven-member community board or "Transition Oversight Commission" that would be involved in the many details of the transition. Members would be appointed by the existing City Councilors and County Commissioners in January 2005 and would make final recommendations regarding consolidation to the new governing body at the end of that same year.

The new charter would go into effect immediately if approved. But functional changes would be more gradual. All existing laws, including zoning and subdivision ordinances of both entities, would remain in effect. Likewise, all employees of the two governments would become "Albuquerque-Bernalillo County" employees. No immediate changes would disrupt services delivered to residents or businesses by either entity.

More details are included in the charter and in supporting information that will be provided before the election. Check the website at www.abcucc.net or call Sandy Chavez at **768-3147**, or Susan Jones at **768-4237** for more information.



Talkin' Trash
Submitted by
Tina Trekker

What do litter, abandoned vehicles and graffiti all have in common? Think about how you feel when you are walking or driving around town and see trash on the streets, graffiti covering walls, or broken down vehicles sitting on the streets or in driveways. When you see litter, abandoned vehicles, or graffiti in Albuquerque's neighborhoods do you feel a sense of disorder and that no one cares? This loss of pride in our neighborhoods and its consequences was documented by James Q. Wilson and George Kelling in their article "Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety" (*The Atlantic Monthly*, March, 1982). As social scientists, Wilson and Kelling, describe how "disorder and crime are usually inextricably linked, in a kind of developmental sequence." Wilson and Kelling discuss that this disorder in our neighborhoods creates an environment that allows more serious crime to flourish. This disorder also creates a sense that we are unsafe and that crime is increasing in our community.

The Albuquerque Police Department considers litter, abandoned vehicles and graffiti to be quality of life offenses that create disorder. APD has worked with Mayor Martin Chavez to implement a zero tolerance policy against litter offenses, abandoned vehicles and graffiti. Since the new policy was implemented in **June 2004**, the Albuquerque Police Department has issued **402** citations for littering, and driving on city streets with an uncovered load.

In February 2004, the City implemented an abandoned and inoperative vehicle hotline using the telephone number **768-CARS**. Since its inception, 2,349 abandoned and inoperative vehicles have been reported on this hotline for follow-up by the Albuquerque Police Department. The APD responds to each request that is made to the hotline. Each vehicle that is reported on public property is forwarded to the associated APD area command so that the report can be

investigated, red tagged, and ultimately removed. Inoperative vehicles that are located on private property are referred to the City's Zoning Enforcement Division for follow-up; since February 2004, over 1,000 reported vehicles have been forwarded for zoning enforcement action.

The Albuquerque Police Department's, Field Services personnel identify locations where new graffiti has appeared and refer these graffiti sightings to the City's Graffiti Hotline so that it can be cleaned up. Since **June 2004**, APD field officers have referred **487** graffiti sightings to the Solid Waste Department for follow-up and removal.

The APD is aggressively attacking these quality of life offenses that affect our community. While these crimes may seem to be small and perhaps to some people, not worth the focus of a police force, it is this type of crime that affects how we think and feel about our community. We all contribute to the quality of life within Albuquerque by how we choose to make our community cleaner, more orderly and safer. Be a part of this partnership with your municipal government to keep our community clean, so that we can all live in a city in which we are all proud.



Sierra Vista
Squirrel Problem Needs Help

We had one of our vehicles in for repairs (the gas gauge quit working). It ended up costing us almost \$1500 as a squirrel was building a nest in the engine compartment and besides storing apples, had chewed through a number of lines, including the 4-wheel drive control.

The shop called in a specialist - they originally thought it was a mouse or rat problem. The specialist took one look at the bite marks/pattern and said no question - it's a squirrel. This vehicle had only been sitting for 10 days while we were on vacation. It had been driven fairly regularly up until that time.

We are thinking that we should have our other vehicles checked just to make sure that they are OK. We also have a small hole in the facial, where snow-laden branches fell over the phone line and

snapped at the seam and created a gap. This morning I heard noises in the roof area and when I went outside I saw a squirrel peeking out of the hole. We've known about the gap since it happened and had planned to replace all the fascia and soffit areas this summer/fall. What I didn't want to see was a squirrel. Now, how do I get him out and keep him out?

Any ideas as to how to prevent them from attacking the vehicles parked outside? The garage is too full at present to park them there! Please call Sammie at **228-9593**. Thanks.

2004 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Schedule

Friday, October 1

7 a.m. - 9 a.m. - Albuquerque Aloft

Saturday, October 2

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol Show

6:45 - 7 a.m. - Opening Ceremonies

7 - 8:30 a.m. - Mass Ascension

Sunday, October 3

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol Show

7 - 8:30 a.m. - Mass Ascension

5:45 - 8 p.m. - Balloon Glow

8 - 9 p.m. - AfterGlow™ Fireworks

Monday, October 4

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol

6:45 - 7 a.m. - New Mexico Challenge
Hot Air Balloon Race

7 - 8 a.m. - Flying Events

Tuesday, October 5

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol

7 - 11:45 a.m. - Flying Events

Wednesday, October 6

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol Show

7 - 10 a.m. - Flight of the Nations
Mass Ascension

Thursday, October 7

5:45 a.m. - 6:45 a.m. Dawn Patrol

7 - 8 a.m. - Special Shape

Mass Ascension

8 - 10 a.m. - Flying Events

5:45 - 8 p.m. - Special Shape Glowdeo™

8 - 9 p.m. - AfterGlow Fireworks Show™

Friday, October 8

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol

7 - 8 a.m. - Special Shape

Mass Ascension

5:45 - 8 p.m. - Special Shape Glowdeo™

8 - 9 p.m. - AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show

Saturday, October 9

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol Show

7 - 8:30 a.m. - Mass Ascension

5:45 - 8 p.m. - Night Magic™ Show

8 p.m. - 9 p.m. - AfterGlow™

Fireworks Show

Sunday, October 10

5:45 - 6:45 a.m. - Dawn Patrol Show

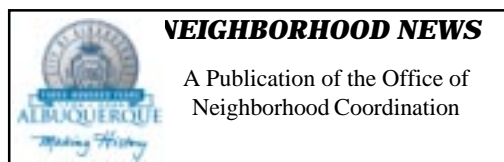
7 - 8:30 a.m. - Farewell Mass Ascension

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION
Planning Department
City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC), a division of the Planning Department, City of Albuquerque. Articles and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

***ONC reserves the right to edit
and/or reject any submissions.***

**** SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY
THE 5th OF EACH MONTH ****



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